

House Resolution 1994

By: Representative Smith of the 113th

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing Antioch Christian Church for its over 200 years of service to the Antioch
2 community in South Oconee County; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Antioch Christian Church was founded in 1806; and

4 WHEREAS, James O'Kelley, a Methodist preacher, split from the American Wesleyan
5 Methodist movement in 1793, and for 13 years he traveled across the eastern frontier
6 gathering members as he went; and

7 WHEREAS, in 1806, a band of O'Kellyites came to what was southern Clarke County,
8 Georgia, and built a small log structure, naming it "Old Republican" after a North Carolina
9 church that had complete autonomy; and

10 WHEREAS, the church has been renewed twice since 1807, moving into its second building
11 in 1820, and the third and present one, built in 1896, stands on the identical spot that was
12 occupied by the church's original log structure; and

13 WHEREAS, Antioch Christian Church is a substantial building, beautifully situated in
14 Oconee County with a current membership of approximately 500, a number composed
15 mostly of local farmers and their families, and with services held on the same hilltop for over
16 200 years; and

17 WHEREAS, the church is heavily involved in the community, and its members have traveled
18 to Egypt, South America, and the Caribbean on missions working constantly to expand its
19 faith and following; and

20 WHEREAS, Antioch Christian Church has been referred to as the "Mother Christian Church"
21 in Georgia in honor of its history as the oldest Christian church in the state; and

1 WHEREAS, the grounds that "Old Republican" occupied have served as a hallowed place
2 of worship for over 200 years.

3 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
4 the members of this body join together in recognizing Antioch Christian Church for its over
5 200 years of service to the Antioch community of Oconee County.

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
7 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Antioch Christian Church.